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# BAPTIST Informer

Volume 132, No. 3 | *Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc.* | March 2009

Dr. Clarence G. Newsome, President Shaw University

Dr. James T. Roberson, Jr. Dean of the Shaw Divinity School

## GBSC OFFICERS

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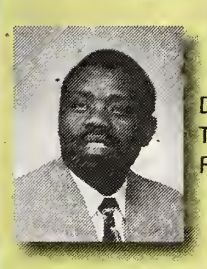

Dr. Ricky Banks Third Vice President

Dr. J. Vincent Terry Fourth Vice President

Dr. Haywood T. Gray Executive Secretary-Treasurer

GBSC THEME

***"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship,"*** *Matthew 28:19-20*

## Shaw University Divinity School

### 36th Annual Alexander/Pegues Ministers' Conference

*By Dr. Rudolph Tripp*
*Reverend Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.*
*President GBSC*
*Gmoss1@bellsouth.net*
*(704) 334-5309*

Ministers' Conference. The Audacity to Lead is the theme and focus of this year's conference which will be held March 16 -19, 2009 in the Thomas J. Boyd Chapel on the campus of Historic Shaw University. We believe that conference participants will leave with new insight into leadership, ministry, and the challenges and changes that face the Christian community.

Honorary guest preacher, Rev. Dr. Gardner C. Taylor, will open the conference with words of 'Wisdom and Leadership.' Dr. Taylor is Pastor Emeritus of Concord Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York and has served as Distinguished Visiting Professor of Homiletics at Shaw University Divinity School.

At a time when our nation has had a shift in presidential leadership, we are blessed and honored to have the following national presidents: Rev. Dr. William Shaw, President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; Rev. Dr. Stephen Thurston, President of the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc.; Rev. Dr. T. Dewitt Smith, President of Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.; Rev. Dr. Marsha Foster Boyd, President of Ecumenical Theological Seminary, Rev. Dr. Michael Battle, President of Interdenominational Theological Center and Rev. Dr. Alice Hunt, President of Chicago Theological Seminary. The conference will be closed out by our very own General Baptist State Convention President, Rev. Dr. Gregory Moss.

The distinguished alumni service will be held Tuesday, March 17 at 11:00am. We are blessed to have Rev. Dr. Reginald High as the Distinguished Alumni Preacher. Rev. High is the pastor of Beaver Creek Baptist Church in Zebulon, North Carolina.

Afternoon lectures will be held each day from 4:30pm to 5:30 pm. The conference lecturers are Rev. Dr. David Goatley, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention in Washington, D.C. and Executive Director of Lott Carey International; Bishop Thomas Hoyt, Jr., Presiding Prelate, 7th Episcopal District Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Hyattsville, Maryland; and Rev. Dr. Boykin Sanders, Professor of New Testament Studies and Greek, Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology in Richmond, Virginia.

Workshop facilitators include: Rev. Dr. Alice Hunt/Training Leaders to Be Leaders; Rev. Dr. Linda Bryan, Associate Professor of Missions and Ministry, Shaw University Divinity School/Women in Leadership; Rev. Dr. James Roberson, Jr. Dean, Shaw University Divinity School/ Visionary Leadership; Rev. Samuel Tolbert, President, Louisiana Home and Foreign Missionary Baptist State Convention/Crisis Leadership; and Rev. Dr. Loñieta Cornwall, Director of Chorale Studies, Shaw University/ Music Leadership.

The conference musicians are: Rev. Dr. Loñieta Cornwall, Rev. Clarence LeMay, Rev. Alexander Shuford, III, Rev. Jamaine D. Smith, Rev. LaMont Johnson, and Rev. Lamonte Williams. The Shaw University Choir will also perform.

In addition, late night worship and preaching is scheduled: Monday night, Rev. Timothy Walker, Tuesday night, Rev. Nilous Avery Jr., and Wednesday night, Rev. Lamont Johnson.

CONVINCED
MISSIONS EDUCATION FELLOWSHIP
GBSCNC 2006-2010

Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr.

## NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
## 2009 LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR: TUESDAY, MARCH 31

North Carolina Council of Churches will sponsor a Legislative Seminar at White Memorial Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, NC. The event will include worship, workshops on critical legislative issues and fellowship with other people of faith. The 2009 Faith Active in Public Life Award will also be presented.

## Save the Dates

**May 5-6, 2009▪**
**2009 Mid Year Session**
Dr. J C Harris
First Baptist Church
Statesville, NC

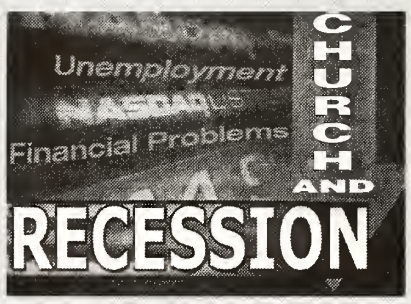
**October 26-28, 2009▪**
**GBSC Annual Session**
Greenville, Convention Center
Dr. Howard W. Parker, Jr.
Sycamore Hill Baptist Church
Greenville, NC

**January 8, 2010▪**
**2010 MIk Banquet**
Raleigh Convention Ctr
Dr. William T. Newkirk, Sr.
Oak City Baptist, Raleigh, NC

**January 9, 2010▪**
**WBH & FMC**
Raleigh, NC

**May 4-5, 2010▪**
**Mid-Year Session**
New Bern Convention Ctr
Dr, James L. Cooper
New Bern, NC

**October 25-27, 2010▪**
**GBSC Annual Session**
St Paul Baptist Church
Charlotte, NC




## Is There a Bright Side to Any of This?

**Yes!** Historically, the church has experienced significant growth in attendance durin difficult times. People are shocked out of their status quo in times of financial crisis and begin to question whether or not they really have any control over their circumstances. Quite often, they turn to the Church as they seek answers.

(Thomas Greer is a certified public accountant and regional director for Visioneering Studios Inc.)

# From the desk of the First Vice President

*Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.*
*First Vice-President*
*AveryRevKin@aol.com*
*(704) 637-0954*

Dr. Nilous **Avery, II**

"To the [General Baptist Family] of God in [North Carolina], to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ…Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 1:2-3, NIV).

Jesus declared to His disciples in Matthew 5:14: "You are the light of the world." Jesus also promised His disciples they would receive God's power to accomplish what no other power on earth could do (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 8). Through them, God's power would provide light to a world that was bound by the darkness of lesser powers. Through them, God's light would enlighten, equip, and empower them to be witnesses of the Christ, even "to the ends of the earth." The oppressive power of Roman imperialism was no match for the promised power the disciples would receive in order to serve as "the light of the world."

The same is true today. My sisters and brothers in the Lord, YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD! This is the promise of the Christ from the Christ to all who trust and follow Jesus our Lord. No wonder the Apostle Paul could exclaim with confidence: "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Galatians 2:20, NIV).

## YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!

We receive this world-illuminating power from God through an intimate companionship and communion with the once crucified, but now risen Christ! With this power:

- we overcome weakness because God's power works through human weakness;
- we are rescued and healed; thus, we become rescuers and healers because God's power rescues and heals those who are handcuffed in the ruins of destructive experiences;
- we become a Christian community which reaches out to the least, the lost, those who are left out, looked over, and let down because God's power strengthens Christian communities.

The work of State Missions involves numerous ministries that endeavor "to convince the unconvinced to be convinced." Two of these ministries are providing opportunities for the General Baptist family to shine our light. Under the leadership and insight of our President Dr. Gregory K. Moss, Sr. and Executive-Secretary Dr. Haywood T. Gray, the Evangelism Ministry, under the coordination of Chair Dr. Robert E. Lee McGowan, and the Prison Ministry, under the coordination of Chair Reverend Michael R. Smith, Sr., are continuing to empower and equip God's people to glorify God and edify others.

Thank you General Baptists for shining your light and for the opportunity to serve God and humanity. We need your gifts. We appreciate your support. We cherish your prayers. Please support the kingdom work of our convention through State Missions with your generous and cheerful gifts of total stewardship (time, talent, treasure, temple, testimony). "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen." (1 Corinthians 16:23-24, NIV). ■

# *How Should the Church Respond?*

Ministry In the midst of a RECESSION

Churches need to keep a long-term perspective during this recession and not overreact to the short-term situation. The economy will always be cyclical, but the Church must always hold firm to its God-given vision and not make compromises that will impact future ministry. For whatever reason, God allows circumstances to arise that impact the timelines we have established. We should not be anxious during these times, but we should move as God allows.

A church building project – from dream to dedication day – is quite often a three-year process. If a church is growing today, but does nothing during the current economic cycle, it will lose two years in the process – meaning it could be five years before any new facility is completed. Now is a great time, with minimal investment required, for a growing church to begin developing a strategic plan for a building project that includes a thorough review of the space and financial planning. When this strategic planning is complete, then the church can begin the actual design process. By the time all of this is done, the current economic cycle will most likely be in recovery, and the church will be in a place to take advantage of better lending availability and begin construction without delay. This will allow new facilities to be completed at an earlier date and reduce the likelihood that space needs will limit the growth of the church.

Additionally, as churches develop strategic plans, they need to approach the next few years with a conservative fiscal model that provides flexibility in case projections do not meet expectations. Churches that have established strong cash positions will be able to take advantage of lower land prices and reduced construction costs. Other churches may need to defer construction until the economy rebounds.

Regardless, all churches need to be planning for the unplanned. Despite predictions and forecasts, none of us really knows what to expect in the next couple of years. Churches must be very conservative as they commit to major projects. They should not make any assumptions regarding the availability of financing and should assume that capital campaign collections could be 10 percent – 20 percent less than historical trends. Even some churches that have been able to obtain construction financing have discovered that their lenders have been unwilling to provide permanent financing when construction was completed – which in some cases results in foreclosure.

As has been the case in all previous recessions, those churches that have placed themselves in a strong cash position are able to benefit during tough times. Those that are not as financially strong need to focus on reducing costs and eliminating as much debt as possible in order to weather the storm. The upside for churches is that God possesses unlimited resources and is able to provide as he determines. This is a wonderful time for churches to model good stewardship and look to the Lord through prayer. What a confirmation it is to the vision of the church to see God miraculously provide resources so that vision can be realized. At the same time, we should not assume upon his generosity, but rather wait on his timing.

*(Thomas Greer is a certified public accountant and regional director for Visioneering Studios Inc.* ■

# The New Home and Durham Missionary Auxiliary

*By Mrs. Lucy Wilson*

The 35th Annual Central Children's Home Program sponsored by the Missionary Auxiliary of the New Home Missionary Baptist Association, Rev. Shirley Cates, President, was held Sunday, January 18, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. at the Christian Assembly Building at Guess Road and St Mary's Road.

Each year one of the fourteen churches of this Association is in charge of this day. Rev Michael Rogers, Pastor of Lakeview Baptist Church of Durham and church family, were responsible for this service. Rev. Abita Docher presided. His scripture was read from Hebrews 12:1 and his subject was "Finish What You Start."

Greetings were extended by Rev. Norman Cooper, 2nd Vice Moderator of the NHDMA and pastor of the Chestnut Grove Baptist Church of Wake Forest.

An overview of the Central Children's Home was given by one of the staff members of the Children's Home.

A special presentation was made by the Finance Committee to the Central Children's Home in the amount of $8,600. This was an incomplete report.

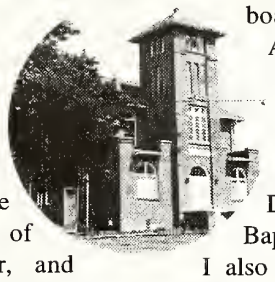
Prior to the service, President Cates and the Hospitality Committee hosted the children and staff to a buffet lunch at the Golden Corral Restaurant, Roxboro Rd, Durham, NC.

NEW HOME & DURHAM MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1. Cains Chapel Baptist Church
2. Chestnut Grove Baptist Church
3. Evans Grove Baptist Church
4. Faith Baptist Church
5. Glenn's Grove Baptist Church
6. Greater Orange Grove Baptist Church
7. Hatch Grove Baptist Church
8. Jones Grove Baptist Church
9. Lakeview Baptist Church
10. Lipscomb Grove Baptist Church
11. Mt. Bright Baptist
12. Mt Olive Baptist Church
13. Northside Baptist Church
14. Orange Cross Road Baptist Church

# Many thanks to the staff and family

*Reverend N.T. Davis*



Grace and peace be unto you from the only One who lived, died and rose again to live at the right hand of His Father, and from the Holy Spirit--Greetings to you all in this New Year.

Norman T. **Davis**

This year is well on its way and on time. The sun rises every day, hurries across the sky, and goes down to rise the next day.

Thanks to Dr. George Cook, our board president, and Mrs. Angelia Williams and the staff of the Central Children's Home for all you do. For the children and home, I want to thank Dr. Haywood Gray and the Baptist family for your support.

I also want to thank Mrs. Lucy Wilson and the Moderator and Vice Moderator of the New Home and Durham Missionary auxiliary for the wonderful expression of love you showed us January 18, 2009, for the lunch and program at your Association building. The lunch was just great as well as the program.

## Why Has This Change Occurred?

For the last decade, housing prices across the country have risen rapidly. Young families who previously could not enter the housing market were able to buy homes under new lending programs that required little documentation with little or no money down. The perfect storm hit when those loans matured and were recalculated to much higher rates at the same time that property values were dropping. Many homeowners across the country are now unable to meet their new mortgage obligations or to refinance at lower rates because they do not have enough equity in their homes. Families have been forced to reduce all discretionary spending just to meet their mortgages. As a result, church giving has decreased

(Thomas Greer is a certified public accountant and regional director for Visioneering Studios Inc.)


# Your Promised Land, Inc.

## Ask....

# Got Debt?

Our team of Attorneys and Church Consultants can help you increase your churches' income and tithes and offerings by helping your members get out of debt-Now! (Luke 16:1-8)

YPL has a team of Attorneys who *"negotiate unsecured debt".*
*Our Attorneys can...*

- Reduce your unsecured debts up to 50 %
- Reduce your interest rate to 0%
- Reduce your payment up to 30-40%
- Reduce your time in debt from years to 24-36 months

***Here are real results from a Debt Negotiator case:***

| | Before Debt Negotiator | After Debt Negotiator | Savings |
|---|---|---|---|
| Unsecured Debt | $31,725 | $19,035 | $12,690 |
| Monthly payment | $810/mo | $500/mo | $310 |
| Avg. Interest Rate | 22% | 0% | Potentially Thousands |
| Time in debt | 108 month | 36 months | 72 months or $58,000 |

***We saved this family over $58,320; this includes principle & interest!!!***

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# The Lord Jesus Christ's Helper

*Dr. Priscilla Brodie*
*WBH & FMC Interim Executive Secretary-Treasurer*
*pbrodie@wbhfmc.org*
*(919) 833-4823*
*Mrs. Bronnie Daniels*
*(336) 767-6156*

Bronnie **Daniels**

Last month reminded us of LOVE, along with the history of African Americans. However, we must realize that the Love of God must be displayed always in relationship and fellowship to Him through the grace of Christ and in the relationship with each other, especially in the Body of Christ. The Senior study book, Understanding Christian Ethics, for this fiscal year reminds us that the love for God must be demonstrated in our love for each other. The question arises, "What would Jesus do?"

As we reflect upon the ministry/missions that Christ has assigned the hands of the Woman's Convention, we see that God has used her to carry forth His Word so that she sows the words, "Christ In Every Home." The book aforementioned shows us how as citizens of heaven to live out that spirit on earth. If we seek and allow Christ be the Head in every home that means that more and more homes are delivered out of the bondage and slavery of sin and defeats the enemy's plan for the home. It is indicated in the scripture that those who believe in Jesus will suffer, and that Satan has the desire to sift us as wheat. The Woman's Convention faces many tribulations at this time and seeks your prayers and your support, for through this ministry God has impacted many churches, ministry to win souls for Christ to the glory of God across the state, nation, and world.

Thus to those who may see otherwisely could Romans 16:1-2 speak: "I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea: That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also"?

Has not the Woman's Convention been and is being commended to you as a Phebe, your sister, a servant of the churches in the state, nations, and world that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and even to men of calling as was Paul (preacher/pastor) who saw the need for Phebe? May we then submit to this trust and together be effective missioners and missionaries in regard to:

**A Charge to Keep I Have**

*A charge to keep I (we) have,*
*A God to glorify*
*who gave His Son my (our) soul(s) to save,and fit it (them) for the sky.*

*To serve the present age, My (Our) calling to fulfill,*
*O may it all my (our) pow'rs engage,*
*To* do my (our) Master's will.

**Help me (us) to watch and pray,**
**And on Thyself rely,**
**By faith assured I (we) will obey,**
**For I (we) shall never die.**
- Charles Wesley

**Reminders**

1. **State-Wide Leaders' Workshop, April 4, 2009.** Pre-Registration will be $10.00; On-site, $11.00. Pre-Registration deadline is March 10, 2009. Please contact us if you do not receive information. The State-Wide Leaders' Workshop will be held at the Benton Convention Center (where we usually meet for the Annual Session in July and not at St. Paul, Charlotte). The session should begin at 9:00 A.M.; however on-site registration should begin at 8:00 A.M. Please bring food (non-perishable) items for the North Carolina Food Bank North Carolina Young Adult Department. Please be sure that expiration dates have not expired.

2. **Budget. for 2008-2009 is $802,200.00 which will be distributed among the objectives. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Woman's Baptist State Convention or Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina and sent to P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. Please be reminded that of the funds you send for objectives 2/3 should be sent for State Missions. State Missions funds provide all funds for the cost of all ministries and operations for home missions done with and for you in the conventional state-wide ministry.**

3. **Quotas 2008-2009** have been sent out to church missionary circle presidents or a contact person. If your church has not received a suggested quota, please write the Woman's Convention at P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602. Or contact the Convention Office immediately at (919) 833-4823. Please give us the name of contact person, mailing addresses and telephone number, and the name and location of church. Missionary Unions, Auxiliaries and District Conferences will receive quotas this year also. Please give as you are led and enabled by the Holy Spirit!

4. Self Denial Envelopes. Please write to the Woman's Convention, P.O. Box 1818, Raleigh, NC 27602 in order to receive these, or fax your request to 919-833-7599.

5. Ministers Wives & Widows Retreat (TBA) is scheduled for May 3, 2009. All Ministers' Wives/Widows are invited. ■

## Severance Pay

Severance pay is money that an employer might want to provide for an employee who is leaving their employ. Normal circumstances that might warrant severance pay include layoffs, job elimination, and mutual agreement to part ways for whatever reason. Severance pay usually amounts to a week or two of pay for each year of service to the company. In some instances, a severance package might include extended benefits and outplacement assistance.

# Announcement!!!!

## The WBH&FMC United Southern Assembly

(All Persons, named in purpose, from Districts V & VI)

**"Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for by faith ye stand."**
II Corinthians 1:24

***Introductory Statement:***
For many a year the Woman's Convention has envisioned having getting acquainted/visionary meetings in different regions across the state. Thus under the leadership of President Daniels, the Woman's Convention seeks to implement this initiative.

***Purpose(s):***
To inform pastors, church circles, missionary county unions, district conferences, auxiliaries, interested persons of the Mission of Jesus Christ through the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to GBSC, in assisting witnessing and missions-in action across the state, country, and globe

To allow interaction or dialogue between WBH&FMC officials/representatives and the above mentioned constituency in four (4) different settings across the state (one setting per quarter)To renew and/or cultivate new partners of missions for the Cause of Jesus Christ through/with the Woman's Convention

**Attendees: All above named persons in Districts V & VI**

**Date:** May 23, 2009
**Time:** 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.
**Place:** TBA

**District Chairpersons:**

| District | Group | Chairperson |
|---|---|---|
| 5 | 1 | Mrs. Mattie Garmon |
| 5 | 2 | Mrs. C. Trumilla McDowell |
| 6 | 1 | Ms. Joyce A. Hardison |
| 6 | 2 | Mrs. Arvella Marlo |

# What to Do If You Are Laid Off

*Portia H. Brandon, M. Div.*
*Christian Education Coordinator/*
*Managing Editor*
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Portia H. **Brandon**

Your job is at risk. This has nothing to do with how talented and well-respected you are, or the fact that your past three reviews have been gold star. You are at risk for reasons that have nothing to do with you. The double whammy of the credit crisis and an economic recession increases the likelihood that businesses will be forced to cut back on costs, and that could mean reducing staff.

**ISSUE:** You were laid off after 20 years with the same company. You are having a hard time finding a new job at the same salary and level of responsibility.

**ACTION:** Be realistic. What you made at your last job is somewhat irrelevant. What employers are willing to pay today for the job they have today is what really matters. People who have spent a lot of time in one company or industry may have been well compensated for that expertise. But there is no guarantee your next employer needs those very skills or values them as much as your former employer did. In tough times, you take the best offer available and appreciate that you have a job that allow you to support your family. If that means your family needs to get by on less income, well, that's just another reality to face in 2009.

**ISSUE:** You are worried you may lose your job in 2009.

**ACTION:** Prepare for it.. I would not be surprised to see unemployment rise to 8% or even 9%.

The best way to protect your family is to know that you will still be able to pay the bills while you look for a new job. Because of the weak economy, that could take longer than you may think. That is why it is imperative that you build an emergency savings account that can cover your family's living expenses for eight months. I know that is a lot, but you have got to start saving as much as you can right now. I want to make sure you are up to speed on the fact that you made not be able to tap your credit card or a home equity line of credit to pay your family's bill in the event you are laid off. Lenders are not in the lending mood these days. I cannot be more emphatic: You must have savings set aside to be truly safe in 2009

**ISSUE:** You plan to make early withdrawals from your 401(k) if you are laid off and can't pay your bills.

**ACTION:** Try hard not to touch your retirement savings. What seems like reasonable action to help you get through problems today will devastate your long-term security. You need that money for retirement; spend it today and you will have less tomorrow. And don't tell me you will worry about it later, or you will boost your savings when you get another job. Even the best of intentions to make up for the withdrawals can run into harsh realities: Your next job may not pay enough to allow you to save to make up for your early withdrawal There is one important action I want you to take with your 401(k) if you are laid off in 2009: Roll over the money into an IRA at a brokerage or mutual-fund company. Rolling your money into an IRA gives you access to the best low-cost mutual funds and ETFs (exchange-traded funds), rather than limiting yourself to the investment choice in your 401(k). And because of the steep market declines, if you qualify to roll over your money into a Roth IRA in 2009, you will get a great tax break.

**What to Do If You Are Laid Off**
*Excerpted from Suze Orman*

**ISSUE:** You don't have money to set aside in savings.

**ACTION:** Get serious about finding ways to come up with real savings — right now. This is nonnegotiable: You will build up a savings reserve. You and your family can (and must) adjust to the new realities of 2009 to find ways to reduce your expenses — or increase your income — so you have money to put toward important financial goals. And in 2009, there is nothing more important than building an emergency savings fund that can carry your family for eight months.

You also want to start your job hunt right now — while you still have your current job. Network like crazy, show up at industry conferences, and take a look at job postings in your field. If there is any specific skill mentioned that you are not up to speed on, get yourself schooled on it ASAP. In a slow economy, employers won't hire someone who meets 80% of their needs; they have such a large pool to chose from that they can find the person who meets 100% of their needs. Make sure that person is you.

**ISSUE:** You figure you will get by on unemployment benefits if you are laid off.

**ACTION:** You will still need to supplement that money with your own savings. The reality is that your maximum unemployment benefit typically will replace less than 50% of your lost wages. There is also a time limit to those payouts; 26 weeks is the standard amount of time you are eligible to collect unemployment. In harsh economic times, Congress can vote to expand the benefit period for an additional 13 weeks. (Unemployment is handled by your state, based on general standards set by federal law.) To find out your state's rules, go to www.servicelocator.org and click on the "Find Unemployment Insurance Filing Assistance" link on the left side of the page

**ISSUE:** There are so many bargain foreclosures for sale, but home prices keep falling. For whom is it a good idea to buy a house?

**ACTION:** If you do not have 20 percent to put down, if you do not have a high (credit) score of 700 and above, if you cannot afford a 30-year fixed mortgage including property tax and insurance; if you don't have, on top of the down payment, an eight-months emergency fund, you should not buy a house. ■

Ministers' Wives & Widows Fellowship of the Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of NC.

**2009 Retreat**

***"Stand on God's Promises...for Victorious Living"***

Saturday, May 2, 2009
First Baptist Church
3002 Moore St. • Fayetteville, NC 28301

***Workshop Topics***
"Speaking Words of Promise"
"God's Promises are Like a Sweet Roll"
"Wanted: Victorious, Vigorous Women for the 21st Century Church"
"Mind, Body and Soul - Rest in God's Promises"

***Come.... Experience:***
God's Presence • God's Power
God's Leading • God's Faithrulness • God's Rest

Pre-registration Fee: $18.00 - Deadline April 24, 2009
For Registration Information Contact the Woman's Convention at (919) 833-4823

***"Recession is when a neighbor loses his job. Depression is when you lose yours."***

Repeating the words of
Harry S. Truman

Dr. David C. **Forbes, Sr.**

*Host Pastor*
Dr. David C. Forbes, Sr.
Vice-Chairman of the Board

*Host Church*
Christian Faith Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC

## 112th Annual Session
## Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention
## Raleigh, North Carolina
### August 10 – 14, 2009

# HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

## INSTRUCTIONS

Reservations can be made beginning 1 February 2009 by choosing one of the following methods.

**FAX**
FAX a completed form, one copy per room to
**505-247-8200**

**MAIL**
Send a completed form, one copy per room to
NMCR Housing Bureau
800 20th St. NW
Suite B, Albuquerque, NM 87104

**INQUIRIES**
Call (505) 346-0522
Or e-mail reservations@nmtravel.com
**Please note the phone number on this form is for inquiries/assistance only. Reservation requests must be made by fax or online.**

**CONFIRMATIONS**

Confirmations will be sent after each reservation booking, modification and/or cancellation. **Review it carefully for accuracy.** If you do not receive a confirmation via e-mail, fax, or mail within 14 days after *any* transaction, please contact the housing bureau at the number listed above.

**ROOM RATES/TAXES**

To take advantage of the **Lott Carey** rates, be sure to book your reservation by **15 July 2009.** After this date, room availability or conference rates will not be available and the hotels may charge significantly higher rates. All rates are per room per night and are subject to 12.75% tax (subject to change). Hotels may charge additional fees for rooms with more than one occupant. When making a reservation, please provide room and bedding preferences in the Special Needs section of the Housing Form. The hotels will assign specific room types upon check in, based upon availability. ***Please be advised that requests are not guaranteed.***

**MODIFICATION/CANCELLATION**

For new reservations or modifications, you may continue to make reservations from **February 1, 2009** through **July 15, 2009** via the NMCR housing bureau. Reservations secured by credit card may be modified and/or cancelled without penalty from **open date** through **cut-off date**, after which, cancellations will be assessed a **$25.00 processing fee**. Reservations made after **cut-off date** and cancelled are also subject to the $25.00 processing fee. Please be aware of the individual hotel cancellation policy requires 24 hours cancellation prior to arrival in order to receive a deposit refund.

## HOTEL INFORMATION

Arrival Date: _____

Departure Date: _____

List choices in order of 1 – 2 (#1 being the most preferred)

| RANK | HOTEL | Single | Double | Triple | Quad |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ___ | Marriott | $121 | $ 121 | $ 121 | $121 |
| ___ | Sheraton | $121 | $ 121 | $131 | $141 |
| ___ | Holiday Inn | $100 | $100 | $100 | $100 |
| ___ | Clarion | $90 | $90 | $100 | $110 |

Tax is 12.75% per room per night and will be added to the rate at check out.
Reservations will be processed on a first come, first serve basis. If requested hotel(s) are unavailable, reservation will be processed according to proximity to conference site.

Room Type: (please fill out both)
Number of people in room: _____
Number of beds in room: _____
**List all occupants in room:** (Include yourself)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Special Needs: _____

☐ Smoking ☐ Non-Smoking

## DEPOSIT INFORMATION

All reservations must be guaranteed by a major credit card. I understand that if I do not arrive or cancel by 48 hours prior to arrival, I will be liable for my first night's deposit. *(Confirmation from the NMCR Housing Bureau will contain specific hotel cancellation policy.)*

Signed: _____

☐ **Credit Card**
*Please be advised that the credit card must be valid through the dates of the conference*

**Type of card:**
☐ American Express
☐ MasterCard
☐ Visa
☐ Other _____

**Account Number:**
_____

Expiration Date: _____

_____
NAME OF CARDHOLDER

_____
CARDHOLDER'S SIGNATURE

## SEND CONFIRMATION TO: (FILL THIS PORTION COMPLETELY)

NAME:
First: _____ MI: _____ Last: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Postal Code: _____

Country: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

**If outside the USA, please also include country and city codes.**

**DO NOT SEND THIS FORM TO Lott Carey**
**SEND IT TO NMCR Housing Bureau**
**PLEASE USE ONE FORM PER ROOM. MAKE COPIES AS NEEDED**

# Personal Registration Form

112th Annual Session of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention
10-14 August 2009
Raleigh, North Carolina

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please complete one (1) registration form for each individual who will attend the convention. The personal registration fee entitles you to: a delegate kit, the convention program, annual minutes, annual report(s), delegate badge, one 1-year subscription to the Lott Carey Herald Magazine, and enrollment in the Mission study course.

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE**

E-mail address (if any): _____

**Please check (√) one:**

○ Clergy ○ Laymen's League ○ Women's Auxiliary ○ Young Adult (ages 18-35)

○ Youth (ages 13-17) ○ Hope Missionary (ages 10-12) ○ Hope Missionary (ages 6-9)

**Please circle one:** REV. DR. MR. MRS. MS. **(YOUTH ONLY:** MALE / FEMALE )

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Name as you wish to appear on badge: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____ (day) _____ (evening)

Church Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Pastor: _____

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, PLEASE CONTACT:**

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

Is this your first time attending the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention? ○ YES ○ NO
Did you attend Mission Study Class in 2008, Rochester, NY? ○ YES ○ NO

| | Cost | | Quantity | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Adult Registration (postmarked through 30 June 2009) | 70.00 | x | _____ | = | _____ |
| Late Adult Registration (postmarked after 30 June 2009) | 85.00 | x | _____ | = | _____ |
| Youth Registration (ages 6-17 ONLY) | 60.00 | x | _____ | = | _____ |
| Late Youth Registration (postmarked after 30 June 2009) | 70.00 | x | _____ | = | _____ |
| Prayer Breakfast (Monday, 10 August 2009, 7:00 a.m.) | 25.00 | x | _____ | = | _____ |
| Community Feast/Banquet (Monday, 10 August 2009, 5:00 p.m.) | 40.00 | x | _____ | = | _____ |
| Musical (Monday, 10 August 2009, 7:30 p.m.) | 10.00 | x | _____ | = | _____ |
| TOTAL AMOUNT DUE | | | | = | _____ |

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:**

LOTT CAREY BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION CONVENTION
112TH ANNUAL SESSION
220 I STREET, N.E., SUITE 220, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002

ADVANCE PERSONAL REGISTRATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY **30 JUNE 2009**.

| TODAY'S DATE | RECEIVED BY | REGISTRATION NO. | AMOUNT RECEIVED |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |

# "A Food Ministry With A Servant's Heart"

1. Q: What is Angel Food Ministries?

A: Angel Food Ministries is a non-dedicated to providing grocery relief and financial support to communities throughout the United States.

2. Q: How does it work?

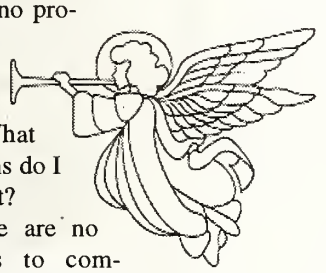
A: Angel Food's groceries are sold in a quantity that can fit into a large-sized box at $25.00 per unit. Each month's menu is different than the previous month andconsists of both fresh and frozen items with an average retail value of approximately $50.00. Comparison shopping has been done across the country in various communities using a wide range of retail grocery stores and has resulted in the same food items costing between $42 and $78.

3. Q: How long will it feed a family?

A: Generally, one unit of food assists in feeding a family of four for about one week or a single senior citizen for almost a month.

4. Q: What is the quality of the food?

A: The food is the same high quality one would purchase at a grocery store. There are no second-hand items, no damaged or out-of-date goods, no dented cans without labels, no day-old breads and no produce that is almost too ripe.



5. Q: What qualifications do I have to meet?

A: There are no applications to complete or qualifications to which participants must adhere.

6. Q: Are there any limits to how much I can buy?

A: There is no limit to the number of Units or Specials an individual can purchase. At least one Unit must be purchased in order to purchase Specials.

7. Q: How can I pay for my order?

A: We accept cash, money orders, credit cards ..

(www.angelfoodministries.com) before you pick up your food on distribution day and decide if you want to order. We start taking orders for the next month the day of distribution.

**Regular Box:** For fourteen years, Angel Food has provided balanced nutrition and variety through its regular box, with enough food to feed a family of four for a week.

1.5 lb. Sirloin Strip Steaks (4 x 6 oz.)
2 lb. Tray Pack Chicken Breast
1 lb. Boneless Pork Chops
2 lb. Breaded Chicken Nuggets
28 oz. Salisbury Steak Entreé
12 oz. Sliced Bacon
1 lb. All-Meat Hot Dog
1 lb. Stir Fry (Broccoli, Red Peppers & Onions)
1 lb. Carrots
10 oz. Peanut Butter
32 oz. 2% Shelf Stable Milk
35 oz. Crinkle-Cut Fries
7.25 oz. Mac 'n Cheese
1 lb. Rice
1 lb. Bean Soup Mix
Dozen Eggs
Dessert

ALL THIS FOR THE LOW COST OF JUST $30.00

*For Seniors or People on the Go!*
Ten perfectly seasoned, nutritionally balanced, fully cooked meals—just heat and serve. Each meal has been developed with the dietary needs of senior citizens in mind, and contains 3 oz. of protein, a starch & two vegetables or fruit.

**Contact Angel Food Ministries**
Call our new 24-hour hotline for answers to common questions, including menu information and host site contact information 1-877-FOOD-MINISTRY
(1-877-366-3646)

Office Phone: 770-267-7015 or 888-819-3745 - Fax: 770-267-8031
Email: angelfood@angelfoodministries.com
Mail: P.O. Box 128 Good Hope, Georgia 30641
Visit: 1620 S. Broad St. Monroe, Georgia 30655
Angel Food Ministries is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to:
USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, DC 20250-9410 ■

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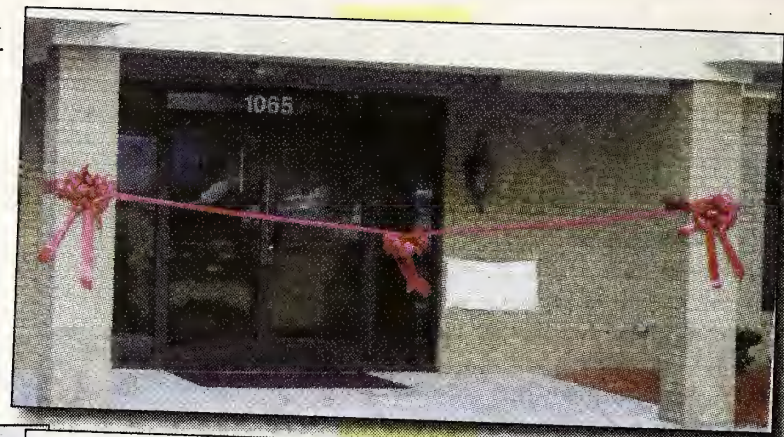
# Best Grove MBC Dedication

Best Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 1065 Tommy's Road, Goldsboro, NC where Rev. Joe A. Jackson serves as pastor, dedicated their new addition and renovation on Saturday, October 25, 2008. Guest speaker for the dedication was the Rev. Dr. Gregory K. Moss, President of the General Baptist State Convention of NC, Inc. and Pastor of Saint Paul Missionary Baptist Church; Charlotte, NC. Music was rendered by the Bear Creek Missionary Baptist Association Mass Choir. The Rev. Charles E. Franklin, pastor of Atkinson Chapel Missionary Baptist Church was the guest soloist for the service.

a token of love and a banquet. 81 persons, seventy years and older were honored.

We thank God for His blessings and delight in His goodness as we continue to Praise Him for all the things He has done. We pray that Pastor Jackson has many years of successful ministry at the Best Grove Missionary Baptist Church.



Also in attendance were the Moderator of Bear Creek Missionary Baptist Association, Rev. Dr. Michael A. Johnson, the 1st Vice Moderator, Rev. Harold O.Warren of Bear Creek and Rev. William Ordelt, Pastor of good Shepherd Lutheran Church and President of the Clergy Living in Faith and Fellowship (C.L.I.F.F.) and many other members of the clergy.

The Renovation project was a vision of the Pastor, Church Leaders and the Congregation. The renovation which began on October 1, 2007 included the Pastor's Study being enlarged and remodeled, the Secretary and Finance Department moving to new locations in the Administrative Wing, and the addition of a new choir room. The new addition has a 450 seat capacity Dining and Fellowship Area with a stage, a large modernized kitchen, pantry area, reference library, a large storage room, spacious rest rooms, a nursery, multi-purpose classroom. A state of the art sound and recording system was added to this project, capable of making recordings and videos of the church services that can be shown on large screens in the Fellowship Area.

A Ribbon Cutting and Unveiling Ceremony were held at the end of the service. The Senior Members of the Church were recognized during the dedication service with

*The theme was:*
"Let Us Unity In Love, Pursue New Endeavors, Rise Up and Magnify The Lord Together"
Psalm 34:1-3.

## NC Council of Churches • 2009 Legislative Seminar

**Tuesday, March 31, 2009 • 9:00 – 3:30**

**White Memorial Presbyterian Church • 1704 Oberlin Road • Raleigh, North Carolina**

***Let justice roll down like waters . . .***

Amos 5:24

**• PROGRAM •**

9:00 Registration (coffee, juice and pastries)

9:30 Opening Session: Worship led by Scott Bass, Nazareth House (a Catholic Worker community), Raleigh.

10:05 Workshops - Session 1
The State Budget: Reforming the Revenue Stream

The State Budget: Protecting Crucial Services
Legislative Process/Citizen Action

Gov. Perdue: Prospects and Priorities for Her Administration
Immigration
Death Penalty

11:25 Workshops - Session 2
The State Budget: Reforming the Revenue Stream (repeated)

Legislative Process/Citizen Action (repeated)
Public Schools
Affordable Housing
Health and Healthcare
Community Corrections

12:30 Lunch
Presentation of the Faith Active in Public Life Award to Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, Pastor, Greenleaf Christian Church, Goldsboro, and President, NC NAACP

2:00 Workshops - Session 3
Mental Health Reform
Human Trafficking
Issues Impacting People Who Are Gay or Lesbian
Jobs and Labor
Global Warming

3:15 Closing Session: Worship led by Art Ross, Pastor, White Memorial Presbyterian Church

3:30 Adjourn

***This Seminar is designed to provide information on critical issues facing the General Assembly and to equip grass-roots activists working for social justice. All interested persons are invited to attend.***

# She Awaits Immortality

Dr. gloria gerald

During the early morning hours of 24 December 2008, the Reverend Jacqueline Jenkins moved from mortality to await the final transition to immortality.

Pastor Jenkins was the founder and pastor of Jehovah Nissi Baptist Church in Winston-Salem. Additional pastoral and ministerial activities included active leadership roles in GBSC's Evangelism Committee until her illness made participation impossible, member of the Rowan and Pilot Mountain Baptist Associations, Baptist Ministers and Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity, National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., American Baptist Churches USA and participation in various community outreach ministries and fellowships.

As one called to equip saints for the effective practice of ministry, Pastor Jenkins understood the importance of a "priest to priestly ones" call to rightly divide God's word and the need to keep abreast of the economic, political and social issues and problems facing the priesthood of believers. That is why she entered Shaw University, prior to being ordained, as a religion and philosophy major, graduated with honors, continued her instruction through the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University's continuing education satellite program and planned to enter the school's Masters Program prior to her illness.

*Pastor Jacqueline Dunlap-Jenkins*

Jackie Jenkins had a pastor's heart, mind, soul and spirit and she lived that posture even unto death.

Continuing to celebrate her life and rejoice in her memory are her children John (Beverly) Nicole Byrd, Penny Hauser (Larry), surrogate daughter Melva Eason, grandchildren, siblings, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and church family.

Rest in peace Pastor, the good you have done follows you.

## Congress Calendar

Ms. Lula **Gainey**

**March 21, 2009**
State-Wide VBS Clinic
Hamlet, NC

**May 29, 2009**
Officers Planning Session
Fayetteville, NC

**June 21 – 27, 2009**
National Baptist Congress
Detriot, MI

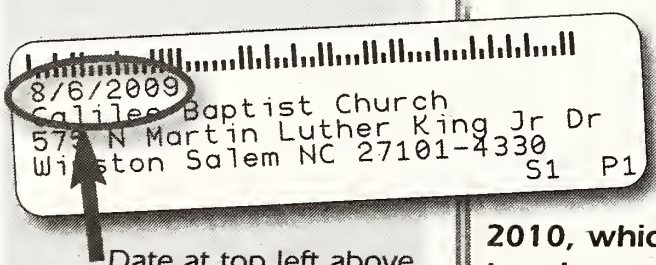
**June 29 – July 1, 2009**
State Oratorical Contest
TBA

**July**
Annual State Congress, TBA

**Sept. 7 – 12**
National Baptist Convention
Memphis, TN

## SPECIAL ANNOUCEMENT

**Your subscription expiration date will be listed on your mailing label. Please make a note of this date so that you will know when it is time to renew your subscription. This is a monthly publication.**




Date at top left above name and address is subscription expiration date! Check your date!

# Surviving a Recession: Lessons From Our Ancestors

Bank failures, Bailouts. Rising unemployment. Stagnant housing market. Economic stimulus package. It seems that every day headlines contain stories about each of these subjects. If there was any lingering doubt before, there is none now. The economic news in the United States is not good.

*Survive a Recession by Doing for Yourself*

1. Our ancestors knew how to do things for themselves. If they needed vegetables, they grew them. When they bought their own patch of land in the wild west, they built their own homes. Meat? They butchered and preserved it themselves.

2. Is your grocery budget too high? Learn to cook from scratch.

3. Instead of assuming you need to pay for something, ask yourself if you could learn to do the job yourself.

4. When times are tight, look to see where you can simplify. Satellite TV is nice, but is it necessary? An internet connection is convenient, but do you really need it? We lived for years without cell phones. Do you need one now? I mean really need one?

5. When your income falls or completely disappears, you need to get back to the basics. If you don't need it, cut it out if you can't afford it.

6. Our grandparent's didn't waste anything. We never saw them throw food out. If a piece of clothing started to fall apart, they mended it, often multiple times, before they replaced it.

7. Kids clothing was handed down from one child to another. When it wasn't fit to be worn anymore, it was made into rags, a quilt, or a rug. Yes, our grandparents' generation knew how to reduce, reuse, and recycle!

8. When times are tight, we need to have the same attitude. If something breaks, ask yourself if you can fix it. Ask if you have something else that will work in it's place. Ask if you really need the item at all. Ask if you can borrow it.

9. Once the recession passes (and it will pass), you can lighten up again, knowing the fact that you survived tough economic times without going further into debt. (http://beingfrugal.com) ■

# 2009 - 2010 Oratorical Topics

### SENIOR DIVISION

1. Ask not what God can do for you; ask what you can do for God.
2. My biggest challenge.
3. Why church is so important to me.
4. Not my will but your will be done.
5. How to become popular!
6. What should Christian teens believe about creation and science?
7. How can I write an evolution assignment, when I don't believe in evolution
8. Safe sex is not safe.
9. The importance of integrity.
10. To convince the unconvinced to be convinced through fellowship.

### JUNIOR DIVISION

1. If not now, "when?"
2. My hero in the religious world is…
3. Watcha know about that!
4. Where do I go from here?
5. Turn around!
6. Is it OK to play guitars in the church?
7. How to make friends.
8. Learn some cool new words.
9. To have religion or be religious!
10. I do not participate in hurtful gossip.

### PREPARATORY DIVISION

1. Be real.
2. All people are created equally.
3. How would the world be different if everybody was truly caring?
4. Give thanks.
5. Blessed.
6. Who, what, when, where, why and how!
7. Dancing for Jesus.
8. Do you see what I see?
9. God will do the rest.
10. What you want is what you are going to get.

## How Long Will This Situation Last?

Ministry In the midst of a RECESSION

**Analysts at a recent conference of the California State Society of CPAs recently forecasted that our current recession will be shallower than those of the past, but will last much longer – possibly extending through 2010 – and that housing values will be depressed well into 2012. This prediction was based on the expectation that a large number of low-interest home loans will recalculate in 2010, which could cause another rise in foreclosures. The result would be excess housing on the market that could take more than a year to work through. Such a situation would obviously make it financially difficult for many of our church members.**

(Thomas Greer is a certified public accountant and regional director for Visioneering Studios Inc.)

# How to Prosper in a Declining Economy

*by Crown Financial Ministries*

People are losing their homes, highly-paid executives are losing their positions and having to settle for lower-paying jobs, food and energy costs continue to increase, and the list goes on.

While these facts are true, what we are experiencing is not new. In Jeremiah 29, the "weeping prophet" predicted long-term captivity. Israel would endure 70 years of hard labor before they would be allowed to return to their homeland. Let's all hope and pray that our current economic downturn won't last that long! List of things you can do to survive or thrive in our current economy.

1. Learn to be content. (1 Timothy 6:6-9).
2. Pay your bills faithfully. Making your payments on or before the due date is a positive testimony to your creditors and a good example to your family/neighbors.
3. Prioritize your debt, making sure you don't compromise your home or your transportation.
4. Negotiate with creditors as needed. Be proactive. Seek a meeting with them to make payment arrangements rather than waiting until you miss payments and they come looking for you.
5. Downsize if it puts you in a better cash position.
6. Pay extra whenever you can to accelerate payoff dates.
7. Have a garage sale to generate extra cash to pay down debt or to increase savings.
8. Capitalize on your most valuable assets, your family.
9. Grow your own food. Food prices are increasing and a great way to invest in yourself and your family is to start your own garden. Whether it's in your backyard or in a community garden in your neighborhood.
10. Cancel cable/satellite. Instead, read a book, play a table game, or share coffee with friends.
11. Explore bartering to save on outgoing expenses.

**"A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it"**

(Proverbs 22:3).

## Usher's Convention Calendar 2009

Helen **Thompso**

**March 14, 2009**
Ushers' Executive Board Meeting, Raleigh, NC

**May 16, 2009**
Ushers' Executive Board Meeting, Raleigh, NC

**August 15, 2009**
Ushers' Executive Board Raleigh, NC

**November 6-7, 2009**
Ushers' Executive Board Meeting, TBA

# Laymen's League

Dear Laymen and Supporters:

The State Laymen's Study Commission Meeting was held December 13, 2008 at Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church, Salisbury, North Carolina. Dr. Clary L Phelps serves as pastor and Deacon Thomas Morgan serves as Local Laymen's President. They were very hospitable. State Laymen attendance was outstanding, and new strategic plans were approved by the Laymen's Executive Board and body.

These plans are being formulated by the State Laymen Auxiliary's Strategic Planning Committee:

- A new Communications and Publications Committee was presented
- The NC State Laymen's Auxiliary will have (4) geographical regions (Western, Piedmont, Central, and Eastern Regions).
- Each geographical region will be led by a Regional Laymen's Coordinator.
- During each State Laymen's Quarterly Study Commission Meeting, State Laymen Leaders will cooperate with the host church to plan and include a missionary activity to be conducted within the host city. All State Laymen are invited to participate and/or support these mission activities.

The Laymen's Strategic Planning Committee is planning a state meeting to further formulate these strategic plans.

**The State Laymen's Meeting**
**March 14, 2009**
**Juniper Level Missionary Baptist Church, 9104 Sauls Rd, Raleigh, North Carolina 27603**
**(919) 779-6401**

The schedule for that day is as follows:

- 9am-10am – Registration - $5.00 per person
- 9am-10am – State Laymen's Executive Board Meeting
- 10am-12:30pm – State Laymen's Study Commission Meeting
- 12:30 pm-1:30pm – State Laymen's Fellowship Luncheon
- 1:30pm-2:00pm – Travel to site of planned missionary activity
- 2pm-3pm – Conduct State Laymen's Missionary Activity at The Laurels of Forest Glenn Nursing Home. 1101 HARTWELL ST, GARNER, North Carolina.

Please bring bibles, Christian books, devotionals, and various hygiene's (lotion, soap, deodorants, toothbrushes, toothpaste, baby powder, etc.) for distribution to nursing home attendees who chose to participate in the mission activity.

NC State Laymen's Leadership has worked with Juniper Level Missionary Baptist Church Leaders for a well planned meeting and Laymen's missionary activity. State Laymen are asked join us as we make definite action plans to strengthen our missions focus. We will continue talking about our Christian faith during our State Laymen's Meetings.....However, we will put our Christian faith into action by participating in these planned State Laymen's Missions Activities following each State Laymen's Meeting.

***God Bless and continue to keep each of us His care.***

## 2009 LAYMEN'S LEAGUE CALENDAR

Theodore **David**

**March 14, 2009**
Study Commission
Juniper Lever Baptist

**April 10, 2009**
Mid- Annual Banquet
Nicey Grove MBC, Charlotte

**April 11, 2009**
Mid- Annual Session
Nicey Grove MBC, Charlotte

**May 16, 2009**
Mini-Skill Conference, TBA

**June 13, 2009**
Study Commission
Mt. Vernon MBC, Creedmoor, NC

**July 10 &11,2009**
Men & Boys Retreat
Mt. Pisquah MBC, Raeford NC

**July**
Trinity Session , TBA

**August 22, 2009**
Scouting Camporee, TBA

**Sept. 12, 2009**
Men's Retreat
Red Bud MBC, Henderson, NC

**Sept. 2009**
WALTER CADE REGIONAL,
Hampton, VA., (tentative)

**Dec. 12, 2009**
Study Commission
Mt. Peace MBC, Raleigh, NC

*A 50th Wedding Anniversary*
*Christian Roast*

February 7, 2009 • 6 p.m.

**Rev. Matthew and Eva Tollison**
**19 Brad Street**
**Asheville, NC**

"God grace is sufficient"

# The Kind of Church Leader Needed for the 21st Century

*Rev. Michael R. Smith, Sr.*
*O – 202 353-8053 / CP - 919 349-5686*
*Email - mrsmithgbsc@aol.com*
*& mrsmith@bop.gov*

**Part 1**

## Introduction

What will it take for the local church to meet the growing challenges and needs presented by our corrupting American culture? Where must Christians look to find the answers to our deepest desires and concerns in our efforts to grow in Christ? When will our society experience a greater impact and witness from the followers of Christ? These questions beg for answers that can come from only one place in the church. The answers are found with the leadership of the church. Church leadership is the essential aspect of church life that has been put in place to provide the leadership required for such a critical time in our society. Our times are crying out for solutions to the declining spiritual, economic, moral, social, and environmental aspects of our American culture. How can the church make a greater difference in reaching, reconciling, and restoring human lives? It begins with church leadership. George Barna, a leading Christian researcher has done a lot to help the local church understand our plight today. Barna writes, "Most Christians try to have a positive impact upon society and individuals. The big question is whether what they are doing is working. If the conclusion is that their efforts are not producing the desired outcomes, then the big challenge is whether they are willing to change their strategies to maximize their potential." Barna makes a case for the necessity of strategic changes if we assess that our efforts are not producing the desired outcomes.

One critical role of church leadership must be to assess and evaluate the life and ministry of the local church. A careful assessment and evaluation of the local church as a whole in America today reveals we are not having the desired effective impact on our society. The influence of the local church in our society is waning. We begin to lose our influence when church leaders are no longer prioritizing the critical importance of fulfilling the Great Commission of Matthew 28:18-20.

The Great Commission is the last direct marching order Jesus gave to the initial church leadership. The core of the Great Commission is to make disciples of all nations.

Biblical discipleship is the divine methodology Jesus Christ utilized in His earthly ministry. Bill Hull writes, "Jesus' words reveal His heart and priority. They also indicate the method that will fulfill God's plan to rescue the world. A commitment to be and make disciples must be the central act of every disciple and every church." What happens in a church where the Great Commission is not a priority for the leaders? The results are devastating to the life and mission of the church. When making disciples is not being done, a local church will never reach their God-desired potential. The leaders and local church settle for a superficial form of Christianity that may have the outward expressions of vitality, but no power to make an impact in their personal lifestyles or communities.

One critical role of church leadership must be to assess and evaluate the life and ministry of the local church.

There is only one place to start turning a local church back in the right direction.

The change must start with every church leader personally embracing the Great Commission in order to be a disciple. Greg Ogden writes, "The first cause of the low estate of discipleship is that pastors have been diverted from their primary calling to equip the saints for the work of ministry." How can this happen when the Word of God is so clear about a leader's primary responsibility is to make disciples (Ephesians 4:11)? In lieu of this, let's examine what kinds of leaders are needed at this time to lead the church in spiritual growth, worship, stewardship, worship, and missions.

Bill Hull, The Complete Book of Discipleship on Being and Making Followers of Christ, (Colorado Springs, Colorado, NavPress, 2006), 26. Greg Ogden, Transforming Discipleship Making Disciples a Few at a Time, (Downers Grove, Illinois, InterVarsity Press, 2003), 40.

## Pastoral Vacancy

**Martin Street Baptist Church (MSBC) in Raleigh, North Carolina**

***Job Description:***

The 500+ member congregation of Martin Street Baptist Church (MSBC) in Raleigh, North Carolina, a predominantly African American congregation, is seeking a pastor who demonstrates an enthusiastic love for Christ, possesses and applies a comprehensive knowledge of the Bible and has a clearly defined vision for the church.

The individual shall be a born-again Christian who is thoroughly immersed in the Holy Spirit, meeting the scriptural qualifications outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7.

The pastor will be responsible for intrinsically inspiring and emphatically motivating others to operate in a spirit of excellence while using their gifts and talents for God in planning, coordinating and evaluating all activities of the church.

MSBC's friendly, out-going and approachable pastor will be able to relate to all age groups and minister to every person in the congregation.

S/he will provide leadership in evangelism, outreach, missions education and missions projects.

The pastor shall be of impeccable professionalism and personal integrity at the highest level.

MSBC's pastor shall work directly with the Deacon Board and associate ministers of the church, while supervising and evaluating the work of a staff of three (3) employees.

**Job Requirements: (Only candidates with these requirements will be considered)**

- Exhibit a well developed vision for the future of the church and of doing God's work and enthusiastically share with the church.
- Make the Gospel relevant to people's lives through clarity and creativity in preaching, resulting in increased membership. Strengthen yourself and the church through private and public devotions, prayer and as the leader of Bible study, availing yourself of on-going education.
- Minister in the midst of a crisis, for example death, sickness, or other traumatic events in individuals' lives.
- Communicate a comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology. Increase youth membership and foster greater Christian service. Have strong skills in program planning and the implementation of youth activities.
- Plan and conduct well-prepared and meaningful worship services that are relevant to all aspects of the congregation which would facilitate congregational growth.
- Minister to, befriend, nurture, support, reconcile, and affirm church members in their homes, through informal contact, and at church; Pastoral counseling.
- Lead the church staff. Manage the affairs of the congregational organization through planning, decision making, delegating, evaluating and managing conflict and stress.
- Set aside time to assist persons facing problems or decisions.
- Be aware of and concerned with community needs, activities, and affairs and be capable of addressing these concerns from a pastoral perspective.
- Share, personally, the Christian faith, enabling laypersons to witness and support denominational missions.
- Display an understanding of the formal and informal structure of the Baptist Church organizations. Be accountable for the integrity and external perception of the Martin Street Baptist Church and use this understanding to influence support to accomplish the goals and objectives of the Church.

**Education/Experience:**

- At least 5 or more years of active, continuous experience as an ordained Baptist minister in good standing with affiliated religious organizations.
- Advanced degree (Masters or higher) in theological training from an accredited School of Divinity or Seminary.
- 3-5 references required (at least 1 from current employer).

**Job Start date:** Negotiable

**Job Salary:** Negotiable

**How to apply:** (applications due by March 31, 2009)

***Please forward a letter of interest discussing qualifications. Include resume, official copies of all college/university and Divinity School transcripts and 3-5 letters of reference to:***

Deacon Donald Liles, Chair
Pastor Search Committee
Martin Street Baptist Church
1 Montcrest Drive
Durham, NC 27713

**If you have questions, please call Deacon Liles at 919.306.0747 between 9am and 5pm.**

# BAPTIST Informer

## ADVERTISING RATES AND SPECIFICATIONS

### NON-PROFIT OR CHURCH AD RATES

| | 1 Month | 3 Months | 6 Months | 12 Months |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| FULL PAGE | $ 350.00 | $ 875.00 | $ 1,650.00 | $ 3,000.00 |
| HALF PAGE | $ 200.00 | $ 525.00 | $ 900.00 | $ 1,500.00 |
| QUARTER PAGE | $ 125.00 | $ 300.00 | $ 475.00 | $ 800.00 |
| EIGHTH PAGE | $ 80.00 | $ 195.00 | $ 325.00 | $ 540.00 |

(Pastor / Church Musician Vacancy Ads are considered an eighth page ad)

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| QUARTER PAGE | $ 200.00 | $ 510.00 | $ 900.00 | $ 1,500.00 |
| EIGHTH PAGE | $ 150.00 | $ 375.00 | $ 600.00 | $ 900.00 |

### AD SPECIFICATIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| FULL PAGE | 10.5" x 12.5" |
| HALF PAGE | 10.5" x 6.25" |
| QUARTER PAGE | 5.25" x 6.25" |
| EIGHTH PAGE | 5.25" x 3.125" |

ALL AD'S MUST BE PAID IN FULL BEFORE ADVERTISED.

Insertion orders are due to 10th of the previous month prior. Ad's should be EMAILED to Portia Brandon-Managing Editor gbscbrandon@bellsouth.net or portiabrandon@hotmail.com..

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## Baptist Informer
### RENEWAL / SUBSCRIPTION FORM

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**Signature**_____

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## INTERIM PASTORAL VACANCY

**Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church**

P O Box 175 • 1390 South Chavis Rd • Kittrell, NC 27544 • (252) 492-0567

The pulpit committee of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church of Kittrell, North Carolina, Is accepting resumes for the position of interim pastor. Applicants should posses the following qualifications:

An ordained Baptist minister with five years minimum pastoral experience in a Missionary Baptist Church.

Available to preach the Gospel each Sunday morning except fifth Sunday.

Strong leadership abilities, good communication skills, and able to work with all age groups.

*Interest candidates should submit a resume with a cover letter to:*

Pulpit Committee
c/o Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
P O Box 175-1390 South Chavis Rd
Kittrell, NC 27544-0175

All materials should be postmarked no later than Tuesday, March 31, 2009. Note. The selected candidate for interim pastor will not be considered when calling a pastor.

## PASTORAL VACANCY

***GOODWILL BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.***

***548 Goodwill Road - Clemmons, NC. 27012***

QUALIFICATIONS:
• Ordained Baptist Minister • Pastoral Experience • Bachelors Degree

OTHER ATTRIBUTES:
• Gifted Teacher • Good Leadership Ability • Ability to counsel
• Committed to the needs of the flock.

*If interested please send resume to*: Goodwill Baptist Church, Inc.
P.O. Box 12546
Winston Salem, NC 27117-2546

*• Deadline for all submissions, February 28. 2009*

## Pulpit Vacancy

**Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church**

Ivanhoe, North Carolina

Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church has a vacant pastoral vacancy. The church was established in 1880 and has a long rich heritage of Christian service to the community.

Applicants who want to be considered should possess the following:

- Must be a licensed and ordained Baptist Minister
- Must have a college and seminary degree
- Must be versatile and able to relate to a diverse age group within the congregation
- Willing to follow Baptist Doctrine and polity
- Willing to work with the community at large
- Provide a vision for the church and display strong leadership ability

*All interested persons should submit a resume to the following:*

Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church, Inc.
C/O Pastoral Search Committee
9364 Wildcat Road
P. O. Box 66
Ivanhoe, NC 28447 Deadline for Resumes: June 1, 2009

*Published the first of each month at Raleigh, N.C.*
*Periodicals class postage paid at Raleigh, NC 27601,*
*and additional mailing offices.*
*Postmaster send address and all communications*
*for publication and inquiry to*
*Baptist Informer Baptist Headquarters,*
*603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27601.*

## ARE YOU LOOKING FOR RENTAL SPACE?

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**Raleigh, NC 27610**
**(sanctuary capacity 320 people)**
**Contact: Evangelist Joyce M. Ray**
**(919) 553-2863**

## PASTORAL VACANCY

**Piney Wood Chapel Missionary Baptist Church**

1. Born again
2. Faithful Christian with a solid belief in the birth, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ as recorded in the Holy Bible.
3. Biblical qualities of a pastor as defined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7.
4. Solid knowledge of God's Word and God's will in doing and carrying out the function of the church.
5. Married to a Christian spouse.
6. Family, community and politically oriented.
7. Effective working with all ages groups in the church.
8. Bachelor's Degree in Theology from an accredited college or university.
9. Licensed and ordained by the Missionary Baptist Denomination.
10. Believes/abides by the Missionary Baptist Doctrines, policies, and Church Covenant.
11. Supportive of the association and General Baptist State Convention.
12. Expected to teach, preach, and counsel in word and deed to all ages group in the church
13. Able to guide the critical management functions of the church spiritually, intellectually and financially.
14. Willing to submit to a criminal background check and credit report.
15. Visionary and trained in setting goals for the continued growth of the church
16. Implements policies fairly and consistently and respects individual needs and abilities.
17. Supports church function including Sunday School, Bible Study, and prayer meeting.
18. Visits the sick and shut in (hospitalized, homes and nursing homes).

***The ending date to receive applications is July 31, 2009.***
***Please forward all correspondences to:***

Search Committee
Piney Wood Chapel Baptist Church
C/O Deacon William Ward, Jr.
P O Box 235
Powellsville, NC 27967

**The Baptist Informer**

Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
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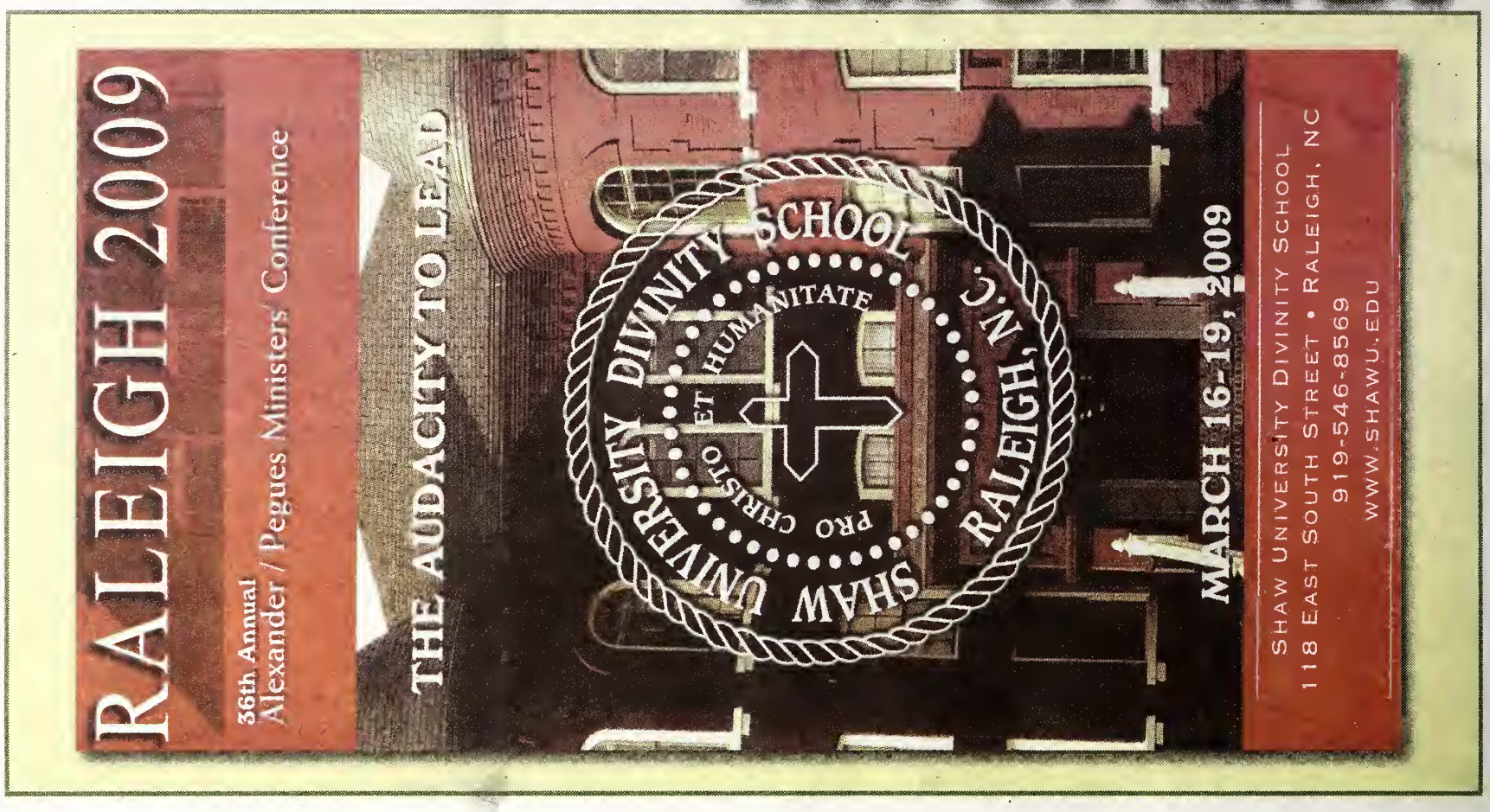
**919-821-7466 • 800-639-4272 • Fax: 919-831-1526**

THEME: *"By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..."* (II Corinthians 6:7)

# Upcoming Events:




BAPTIST Informer
603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
USPS 042-680

**47,000 U.S. job cuts** announced Monday, January 26, 2009, as some of the biggest names in American business announced mass layoffs. Economists predict a net loss of at least 2 million jobs this year, even if **President Obama $820 billion economic stimulus package** of increased government spending and tax cuts is enacted. The unemployment rate, now at a 16-year high of 7.2 percent, is expected to hit 10 percent or more by the end of the year.
(USA TODAY) Christian leaders are trying to fashion a response that addresses day-to-day worries and finds meaning in what might appear to be a hopeless time.